

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 601

By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to commend William James “Bill Jim” Davis for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, William James “Bill Jim” Davis is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Bill Jim Davis has been a local legend in Covington and Tipton County for seventy years, widely recognized in his community as a survivor of the sinking of the USS Helena during the Pearl Harbor attacks in 1941; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis served with valor and distinction as a member of the United States Navy, fighting in seven battles during World War II; and

WHEREAS, upon the end of the war, Bill Jim Davis returned to Tennessee, where he became a State Senator, serving in that position with acumen and alacrity from 1970 to 1982; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his praiseworthy service to the people of Tennessee, Mr. Davis was recently honored at a ceremony held by the Tipton County Veterans Council; and

WHEREAS, Tipton County Mayor, Jeff Huffman, presented Mr. Davis with a plaque in appreciation for his service to the county, and recognized December 17, 2011, as “Bill Jim Davis Day” in Tipton County; and

WHEREAS, Mark Breece, Assistant Commissioner for the State of Tennessee Department of Veteran Affairs, made a presentation to Mr. Davis, thanking him for his military and public service; and

WHEREAS, Captain Brian Winger, President of the Navy Personnel Command Memphis chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, presented certificates and plaques to Mr. Davis in recognition of his outstanding military service; and

WHEREAS, Bill Jim Davis was also presented with military coins and pins by incoming Veterans Council President, Mike Schaefer, commemorating the attack on Pearl Harbor; and

WHEREAS, during his laudable career in both military and public service, Mr. Davis has made innumerable contributions to the betterment of the State of Tennessee and this great Nation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Bill Jim Davis is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend William James "Bill Jim" Davis for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee, salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success and much happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.